

In re application of KRAMER, M.
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended). An Isolated isolated nucleic acid that encodes encoding a protein which is functionally identical to a protein that occurs naturally in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed when the keratinocytes are in an activated state as compared to non-activated keratinocytes,

wherein said protein has ~~the a~~ nucleotide sequence indicated in either the SEQ ID NO:1 sequence protocol or the SEQ ID NO:4 sequence protocol,

or a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of ~~these two~~ SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4,

or, wherein one or more uridine (U) nucleic acids are substituted for thymidine (T) nucleic acid bases in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4,

or a partial sequence of one of these two indicated or complementary nucleotide sequences, said partial sequence comprising more than 8 nucleotides,

or a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes to at least about 8 nucleotides under conventional stringent hybridization conditions to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4 or hybridizes ~~completely wholly or in part with one of these aforementioned nucleotide sequences~~ SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4 under low stringent conditions.

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3. (Currently Amended). The Isolated isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2 wherein the nucleic acid is obtained from a natural, synthetic or half-synthetic source.
4. (Currently Amended). The Isolated isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2 wherein the nucleic acid is obtained from a natural, synthetic or half-synthetic source.
5. (Currently Amended). The Isolated isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2 wherein the nucleic acid is a sense or antisense oligonucleotide, which encompasses more than 8 nucleotides, and hybridizes under conventional stringent hybridization conditions with to the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:1 or sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:4 ~~or partial sequences thereof~~.
6. (Currently Amended). The Isolated isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2 wherein the nucleic acid is a splice variant, which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO: 1 or in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO: 4.
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Currently Amended). A recombinant Recombinant DNA vector molecule, which encompasses a nucleic acid according to claim 2, said DNA vector molecule ~~having the ability to express~~ expressing a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes, wherein said protein is increasingly expressed when the keratinocytes are in an activated state, in particular protein pKe#122, in a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.
9. (Currently Amended). The recombinant Recombinant DNA vector molecule according to claim 8, wherein the vector molecule is the plasmid pUEX-1 or pGEX-2T or pBK-CMV or pHR2.

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10. (Currently Amended). A Transformed transformed host cell containing a nucleic acid according to claim 2, which is coupled with an activatable promoter contained in the host cell naturally or as the consequence of a recombination, and which has the ability to express a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed when the keratinocytes are in an activated state, in particular protein pKc#122.

11. (Currently Amended). The Transformed transformed host cell containing a nucleic acid according to claim 2, which is coupled with an activatable promoter contained in the host cell naturally or as the consequence of a recombination, and which has the ability to express a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed when the keratinocytes are in an activated state, in particular protein pKc#122.

Claims 12-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended). A reagent Reagent for the indirect detection of a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes, said protein being increasingly expressed in activated keratinocytes as compared to non-activated keratinocytes, in particular protein pKc#122, wherein the reagent encompasses at least one nucleic acid according to claim 2.

18. (Currently Amended). A method Method for the diagnostic and/or therapeutic treatment ~~in particular~~ of dermatological diseases or for the cosmetic treatment in ~~particular of the epidermis~~, comprising the steps of

(a) providing a sense or antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 5, and

(b) administering to a patient in need thereof a sufficient amount of said sense or antisense oligonucleotide to cure or relieve said disease or achieve a cosmetic effect.

Claim 19. (Cancelled).

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20. (Previously Presented). The nucleic acid as recited in claim 5 wherein the oligonucleotide includes more than 8 and up to 25 nucleotides.

Claim 21-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended). A reagent Reagent for the indirect detection of a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes, said protein being increasingly expressed in activated keratinocytes as compared to non-activated keratinocytes, in particular protein pK ϵ #122, wherein the reagent encompasses at least one nucleic acid according to claim 6.

Claims 25-28. (Cancelled).

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